



Duval County Public Schools

June 10, 2013, Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chairman
Mr. Jason Fischer
Ms. Cheryl Grymes
Dr. Connie Hall
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez
Ms. Paula D. Wright
Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Legal Officer, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman, Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair and Board members: Mr. Jason Fischer, Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Dr. Constance Hall, Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

Music Presentation:

Arianna Beyer - Douglas Anderson Clarinet Soloist

Arianna Beyer, a senior at Douglas Anderson School of the ARts, was recently named the winner of the statewide 2013 First Coast Wind Ensemble Concerto Competition for high school musicians.

Arianna, a clarinet player, performed as the guest soloist with the First Coast Wind Ensemble.

She then went on to perform and win the 2013 U.S. Navy Band High School Concerto Competition. The competition was held at the historic Washington Navy Yard in D.C.

Arianna returned to Washington, DC in May upon invitation to serve as a guest soloist with the U.S. Navy Concert Band.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes: Pastor Ted Corley

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

Board Members

[1. SCHOOL RECOGNITION - DISTRICT 4 - R. L. BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL](#)

Minutes:

Good Evening Chairman Lee, School Board Members, and Superintendant Vitti. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you briefly this evening. I'd also like to thank the Honorable Paula Wright for inviting me this evening to share a program that's making a difference at R. L. Brown Elementary School.

Throughout R. L. Brown's 50 year history, the school has maintained a proud tradition of educating the children on the Eastside of town near downtown Jacksonville. Currently, R. L. Brown serves a population that is comprised of 85 – 90% African Americans and 10% other, approximately 540 students total. 7 – 10% of our students reside in homeless shelters in the downtown area. R. L. Brown is a neighborhood school, with 125 – 150 students bused in because of our IB magnet program. I continue to meet parents and grandparents of my students who also attended R. L. Brown; it is truly the focal point of that community.

While our instruction is driven by the Next Generation Sunshine State

Standards and the Common Core Standards, the International Baccalaureate Program is interwoven within the very instructional program at R. L. Brown, in which Units of Inquiry are developed throughout the reading, writing, science and social studies content areas, with math being a stand-alone subject. Throughout the years, our IB Magnet has developed many students who are very successful at Darnell Cookman and James Weldon Johnson middle schools.

As a Title 1 school, our greatest challenge is increasing student achievement within our major subgroups (African Americans, SWD, and the Economically Disadvantaged). Another major issue has been the retention of high caliber teachers. This is my first year at R. L. Brown and 11 teachers, almost 1/2 of classroom teachers, with 7 being new to the profession as a whole were hired at R. L. Brown. That's very different from hiring approximately 5 – 7 teachers throughout my 5 year tenure at Reynolds Lane Elementary. Despite this major challenge, we have worked hard to provide our students with a quality education that will prepare them for middle school and life-long learning. R. L. Brown Elementary has a dedicated and driven staff that will do anything and everything possible to see that their students are successful. Some stay late into the evening writing lesson plans, developing assessments, or reflecting on lessons presented that day. Teachers also participate in bi-weekly professional development at the school where they analyze student data and develop prescriptive lesson plans. Teachers also utilized the SuccessMaker and Destination to Success programs within the classroom setting. I have never seen such a hardworking group of teachers and staff.

In saying this Mr. Superintendent and Chairman Lee, I will focus briefly on a very important program that we became a part of this school year.

The P.A.S. S. Program, which is sponsored by the Council for Educational Change is new to R. L. Brown this year. P.A.S.S. stands for Partnership to Advance School Success. I worked very closely with Sherry Clarke our Regional Coordinator, Mr. Russell Newton, Chairman of the Timucuan Asset Mgmt. Group, our personal business partner, and Frances Gupton, a retired DCPS Principal as my Coach during my tenure at Reynolds Lane. Through this partnership, we experienced much success at Reynolds Lane, having earned 3 A's, 1 B and 1 C, with the B being 5 points away from an A. We hope to replicate that same success at R. L. Brown. Although we have had to face many challenges throughout this year as a faculty learning one another, as well as laying the groundwork for the development of a high performing culture, I am proud to say that we accomplished the following because of our P.A.S.S. partnership:

- ? We retained 2 teachers and an assistant during Saturday School for 6 weeks, working with our most challenged 3rd – 5th graders. We also provided breakfast for all our students during this time.
- ? We provided Common Core professional development for 20 of our teachers through the Dana Center.
- ? We provided incentives for our 3rd – 5th grade students who earned a 3 or higher on the FCAT in reading, math or science.
- ? We provided an End of the Year Incentive trip for 47 selected 3rd – 5th

grade students to Busch Gardens.

? We will provide extended training this week in the areas of Developing Units of Inquiry, and Common Core Training

So, as you can see, this partnership, I feel and know, will be very beneficial to making our good school a GREAT school. Although our scores this year do not reflect our hard work and dedication to this community and our students, we will continue to build on our successes this year and look forward to our future, always understanding that our present is bright, but our future is much brighter.

I hope you have enjoyed this brief glimpse inside R. L. Brown Elementary School. We have the motivation, determination, and will always continue to strive for excellence. Once again, I'd like to thank Superintendent Vitti, Chairman Lee and Ms. Wright for allowing me the opportunity to share with you this evening; it truly was an honor.

Communications

1. GCA SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Minutes:

GCA Services Group is one of our partners in education who leads our custodial management services

- o Tonight, they are here to recognize a group of DCPS' students who have been awarded scholarships of \$1,000
- o Must pursue a degree in business or related field, maintain a 3.0 GPA, receive 2 letters of recommendation, show leadership activity, earn a minimum 1100 SAT score or 25 ACT composite score, and prepare an essay
- o Jay Whitaker and Steve Gritzuk will introduce this year's GCA Scholarship recipients

ANNOUNCERS:

Jay Whitaker and Steve Gritzuk, GCA

SCHOLARS:

- Kenya Gordon, Stanton (Principal Nongongoma Majova)
- o Annabelle Gonzales, Peterson (Principal Cathy Barnes)
- o Mark Turner, Peterson (Principal Cathy Barnes)
- o Shelby Robbins, Peterson (Principal Cathy Barnes)
- o Brittany Davis, Atlantic Coast (Principal Debra Lynch)
- o Yanis Cisneros, Sandalwood (Principal Dean Ledford)
- o Haley Curtis, Sandalwood (Principal Dean Ledford)
- o Uriah Oden, Raines (Principal Shateena Brown)
- o Mia Flowers, Paxon (Principal Royce Turner)
- o Enderna Macsime, Terry Parker (Principal Scott Schneider)
- o Jateasia Littles, Ed White (Principal Christopher Jackson)

Not Present:

: Xin Liu (Mandarin), Mansenie Joseph (TP), Kayla Godbold (Baldwin)

2. CHARTWELLS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Minutes:

DCPS' food service operations are provided by Chartwells Thompson School Dining Services

- o For the last several years, they have sponsored an annual scholarship program for district seniors
- o 18 seniors were selected based on high academic achievement, quality essay responses, and acceptance into a post-secondary institution
- o They each will receive a \$1,000 Chartwells scholarship
- o Joel Mee, Regional Director of Chartwells, is here tonight to announce these scholars

• ANNOUNCERS:

- o Joel Mee, Regional Director of Chartwells

• SCHOLARS:

- o Arianna Beyer, Douglas Anderson (Prin. Jackie Cornelius)
- o Kyle Boston, Mandarin (Principal Donna Richardson)
- o Damien Breland, First Coast (Principal Vincent Hall)
- o Cristin Lynch, First Coast (Principal Vincent Hall)
- o Adrienne Floyd, Terry Parker (Principal Scott Schneider)
- o Lamiah Haque, Darnell-Cookman (Principal Mark Ertel)
- o Amber Harrell, Paxon (Principal Royce Turner)
- o William Janey, Andrew Jackson (Principal Iranetta Wright)
- o Nalayah Jones, Raines (Principal Shateena Brown)
- o Brittany Mathis, Baldwin (Principal Denise Hall)
- o Lindsay Parkins, Sandalwood (Principal Dean Ledford)
- o Tyrone Quarterman, Fletcher (Principal Don Nelson)
- o Mohan Ravi, Stanton (Principal Nongongoma Majova)

o Not Present:

Brittany Gray (Lee), Maxwell Patao (Peterson), Briana Lundy (Ribault), Gregory McClain (AC)

3. WELLNESS AWARENESS AWARDS

Minutes:

Wellness is important to DCPS

- o DCPS has a mission to improve student health by promoting healthy eating choices, nutrition education, and physical activity

- o Five schools are being recognized tonight for their Wellness Awareness Programs, launched at the start of the school year
- o They were selected based on promotion of district wellness policy, creativity, participation of students, sustainability, and overall quality of events and activities
- o Terri Cicero, our district Wellness Supervisor, will unveil the winners of this program

- ANNOUNCERS:

- o Terri Cicero, Supervisor of DCPS' Employee Wellness

- AWARD WINNERS:

- o Jacksonville Beach Elementary (Principal Jill Leinhauser and Wellness Ambassador Hillary Siragusa)
- o James Weldon Johnson (Principal Sharwonda Peek and Wellness Ambassador Dionne Clayton)
- o Joseph Finegan Elementary (Principal Alan Due and Wellness Ambassador Velda Thomas)
- o Kernan Trail Elementary (Principal Paula Renfro and Wellness Ambassador Jennifer Kovir)
- o Wolfson High (Principal David Garner and Wellness Ambassador Tomme McConatha)

4. RECOGNITION OF GATES SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Minutes:

Gates Millennium Scholarships are awarded to an elite group of only 1,000 students across the nation

- o Scholars receive a full scholarship at the college or university of their choice covering undergraduate studies through doctoral programs
- o Also provided with academic support and personal and professional development throughout their college careers.
- o Two DCPS students have been selected for this prestigious award
- o They are from William M. Raines and Terry Parker High Schools, which have both had repeat winners for this scholarship

- ANNOUNCER:

- o Marsha Oliver

- SCHOLARS:

- o Alexis Smiley, Raines (Principal Shateena Brown and Assistant Principal LaShanda Roberts)
- o Caleb Bonsi, Terry Parker (Principal Scott Schneider and AVID Lead Teacher Katrina Blakely)

- o Also present:

- Larry Roziars, Executive Director of High School Programs

5. K-12 PERFECT ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION

Minutes:

Our next group for recognition knows what we mean when we say every school, every classroom, every student, every day.

o Few students have earned the distinction of attending school every day from the time they are kindergarteners to the last day of high school in their senior year

o This year, we honor five students who have reached the remarkable achievement of attaining K-12 Perfect Attendance

o These students and their parents have a commitment to education that will benefit them in the years to come

o Gloria Lockley and Corie James, our DCPS' Support Services crew, will present these recognitions

• ANNOUNCERS:

o Gloria Lockley (Director, Support Services) and Corie James (Coordinator, School Attendance)

• AWARD WINNERS:

o Nicholas Trevino, Stanton (Principal Nongongoma Majova)

o David Hager, Stanton (Principal Nongongoma Majova)

o Lauryn Younge, Paxon (Principal Royce Turner)

o Torya Whitaker, Paxon (Principal Royce Turner)

o Ariana Jones, Fletcher (Principal Don Nelson)

Comments From Audience

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Minutes:

Mr. Arvin Johnson, principal, Northwestern Middle School, said I'm here to express my concerns and to express my excitement about the Bridge to Success protocol that we would like to see implemented. This is a program for overaged students that, if approved, will be located onsite at several secondary schools including Northwestern Middle School. It is apparent that certain schools have higher percentages of overaged students than others and we must meet the needs of these students as we do all of our students. While we want to effectively serve all students, the problem is that the interaction among overaged students and age appropriate students are often not beneficial for either population of students. I think the Bridge to Success will be a nice program to support those overaged students. These students will be serviced at existing schools so these students will not be sent to an academy to special site. They will be served at secondary schools. It will also allow those students to benefit from an

age-appropriate curriculum that is based on their readiness levels which will help them the transition to post secondary school and/or careers. Another benefit is that this program offers smaller class size which will allow teachers, through individualized instruction, and to Taylor instruction to those students' needs which will help in the transition from post secondary schools or the workforce. I reviewed the program and it's a very well designed program. I feel it meets the needs of principals and our overaged student population. Thank you.

The following "I'm A Star" Foundation students spoke about an upcoming event and initiative to provide resources and assistance to the approximate 1,600 homeless student in Duval County which will be held on July 27, 2013 with a Telethon, 5K Walk/Run, Celebrity Basketball and much more - let's all get involved in this effort:

Monica Gray
Tabitha Cobb
Khelsea Gordon
Nigel Flowers
Kayla Cobb
Nakezra Person
Larissa Houston
Jacques Butler
Jamilla Jones
Marcus Lizzmore
Tracy Davis
Kierra Johnson
Willie Moore, III

Mr. Mark Cruickshank said I'm a teacher at Fishweir Elementary School and later on in tonight's agenda, you have several disciplinary matters to consider and the agenda includes charges against me. This is the reason why I'm here this evening. I've been accused of using poor judgment and violating the test procedures for FCAT. The test procedures include three categories of things that teachers may not do before testing, during testing and after testing. It is not clearly specific which procedure I've been accused of violating but most of the things I've been accused of doing have been in between testing sessions and did not happen during the test. I do not have much time to speak with you nor much time to respond, point by point, but I did not violate any of the testing procedures. I think you will come to the same conclusion that I didn't violate these procedures if you review the interview notes from the Human Resource department. The testing procedures also are ambiguous on things we cannot do after the test has been completed. During the testing, I read from the script provided to me and did not say or do anything that was not on the script. It appears that I am accused of doing things after one test day but before Session II the next day. For example: after the first session in the afternoon, a student asked me to explain a math problem that had to deal with the difference between factors and factorization in which he was confused. I did refer, at the time, to the FCAT 2.0 sample questions and at the time that I did it, I got "oo's and ah's" from them and I explained to them that this had nothing to do with the test that they saw on the screen earlier that day. This was a teaching moment and it was not while the testing was going on. I did not explain this during the test, only after one test was over and before the next session began the following day. I had asked one of my peers earlier that week, ESE kids and 504 special

needs kids were doing well on an exam just because I was concerned about them and I did not ask anything about the content of the test. Teaching is the most important thing in my life other than God and my family and the punishment of 30 days without pay is extreme and will put a serious hardship of me and my family. Teachers are paid on a 10 month contract, as you all know but it is split up over 12 months. I'm asking you to please postpone consideration of my case until the next meeting where you can review my case, carefully, and decide whether you agree and I have not violated any policy or punishment to be punished this severely. Thank you for your consideration.

Ms. Davy Parrish said I have two students with me as they are part of my presentation. It's our pleasure to come before you, tonight, and we've heard from a lot of "Stars" this evening and we applaud that. Over 2 1/2 years ago, you invested in a program so that more of our young people could become "stars" and it was a risk and you took a leap of faith, as well as looking at it very carefully. Now, we're back and have a superintendent with an incredible vision of expanding this program and also taking it to a new level but taking it to scale because that was one of your biggest concerns because we were just going to reach a very minimal amount of students with this program and you knew it was worthwhile. Now, it's time and we've had some successes, it's not where we want it to be but I think with Dr. Vitti, Mr. Post, staff and all of the new partners coming on board, we can take it to the next level. We have about a 7% graduation rate, as you know, among these overaged students. It's a crisis in our country; it's a crisis in our community. We must address it as a community and mobilize all of us to address it. I have two students with me and they've been in the program. They speak with authority and they're the ones you really want to hear from. I'd like for them to speak briefly about their experience with Schools for the Future which will soon have a new name.

Kanisha Smith and I attend Schools for the Future and I've been with them since the beginning. They have a good intention helping students to work at their own pace. I think SFF is a great school and more so than where I went before because I didn't have the help the teachers provide now and the support. All the teachers at SFF want us to graduate and be together as a family and that is what Dr. Myers, my principal, wants - for all to help each other. I just want to thank you for supporting SFF. Thank you.

Markeisha Walker said I am a student at Schools for the Future and I'd like to tell you a little about that school. SFF has smaller classrooms and you have a chance to make up two years in one. They provide one-on-one time before and after school and you work at your own pace. SFF helps you improve your communication skills which is important to me because when I first arrived at SFF, I was very quiet and now I'm very talkative and I'm able to stand before you, today. It would be a great idea if more schools to be like SFF because more kids would improve in school and it's easier for them to get more help so they can graduate from high school. Thank you.

Ms. Susan Santos and I represent MEDIA which stands for Media Educators of Duval in Action, the professional organization of School Library Media Specialists in Duval County schools. I would like to open with a quote from Dr. Beth Fitzsimmons, Chairman of the US National Commission on Libraries and Information Science: *"As we search for ways to improve the academic achievement of our nation's children, we must understand the fundamental contribution school libraries make to student learning outcomes and ultimately our students' reading gains. From our perspective, a critical part of the comprehensive and renewed strategy to ensure that students learn to read and are*

effective users of information and ideas is the requirement that every school have a school library and that school libraries be staffed by highly qualified, state certified school library media specialists." To the dismay of Duval County's Media Specialists, the latest "School Allocation Plan" guidelines have elementary schools funded 50% and middle/senior schools receiving 1 funding for media specialists. Principals have the option of converting a teaching position into a Media Specialist out of their basic allocation, but it was added that the Title 1 funds may NOT be used to purchase a media specialist, unlike past years. We are teachers. We create lesson plans, teach classes and are observed for evaluations. We play a critical role in language arts, reading and the research process to improve students' literacy skills. Common Core State Standards are going to require multiple research projects. We are very concerned about what will happen to our students and libraries if we are not there full time or worse, not at all. The only possible reason for such blatant and short-sighted disregard for school libraries and the personal who staff them is a lack of understanding of what we do and the important roles we play in student achievement and school gains. We've heard that this Board wants 5%-7% in reserves, not the state required 3%. Well, what is the reserve amount at 3%, at 7%? Does the \$7 million it would take to fully fund media in Duval County schools take that much of the reserve? And, wasn't too large a reserve touted as one of the reasons our previous superintendent came under fire? You are willing to expend millions for deans of discipline and testing captains and new testing programs. We want to help fulfill the Strategic Plan Goal to "Ensure effective, equitable and efficient use of resources" but we, as media specialists, do not want our students nor our libraries to suffer. If Dr. Vitti and this School Board's vision is for every student to be prepared for success in college or a career, then it is "imperative for him to fund the professionals who teach the research process and the information literacy skills." I would like to invite each of you to please stop by the library the next time you visit a school and see what we are capable of doing. Hopefully, we will be there to greet you. Thank you.

Mr. Christopher Jackson said I'm the principal of Edward H. White High School and I'm honored to be here this evening to express my support to expand the options of overaged students, secondary students in our district and more specifically, at my school. Upon being appointed the principal of Ed White, it quickly became obvious that one of my greatest challenges would have to face, as a principal, was addressed in a large number of overaged that were enrolled at our school. Our staff made this issue a priority to provide these students with various opportunities to get back on grade level and thus become high school graduates. While great strides have been made by our faculty and staff, it has not completely resolved the issue and remains a challenge for the 2013-2014 school year. Through this partnership, it will provide the opportunity to address four specific challenges we, as high school principals, face in this area: (1) Students will be able to recover their credits via face-to-face instruction. The success rate of this delivery model is higher than computer-based recovery options such as Compass Odessa and Florida Virtual School; (2) To relieve the concern many parents have of having to withdraw their students from Ed White to attend another school in order to receive this service; (3) Allows the school district to provide the needed wrap around services to students through organizations such as I'm A Star Foundation, Communities in Schools and The Bridge of Northeast Florida that will increase a student's opportunity to be successful. Many of the challenges the students face are the reason for them to be behind grade level and not because of their low academic ability; (4) It gives the students who enter into the program either as a 9th or 10th grader the

opportunity to transition back into the neighborhood school at the end of one year as an 11th or 12th grader. Now, only is this a benefit to these overaged students, but the school, as a whole. By reducing the number of sections required to effectively assist these students, we're getting their course work recovered, it will allow the students to increase course offerings in the arts, career and technical education. Today, I had the opportunity to sit and converse with two students; two young men who were supposed to graduate this year. In reviewing their academic history, I was able to find out that it was not just an issue this year because this year was actually the year they were most successful. Where I found that the issue happened was in either 9th or 10th grade. So, if we were able to get them into a program of this nature, either in 9th or 10th grade, this year they would possibly have been on time graduates. So, now we're trying to find out a way for them to recover their credits either through the summer or being a fifth year graduate so a program of this nature would directly address that issue. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Laura Strickland said it's unfortunate the circumstances with which we're here to talk to you this evening about media specialists, but it is important that you are aware of the very vital function that we have in every school. If you just think back to your own school days when you were at the school and you made regular visits to the school library, who were you most excited to see? Was it the book or the librarian that shared a story with you in elementary school? Was it in the high school where you learned how to do research and use reference materials? There are so many vital functions that we serve and that is just with the students. We haven't even touched on what we do for our faculty. Our faculty has to learn all types of new web.2.0 skills. They learned them from their media specialist. They had to be trained in incorporating new technology. I've had to pry film strip projectors from some of my teachers' hands. I have one that is still holding on a slide projector and 16 millimeter phone - they won't get rid of them. So, we are really adapting new technologies into our schools and the way that happens and the way these teachers are trained, is through the media specialist. We are that vehicle. We are the person who is at the hub of the wheel and all of the spokes that a school does. It is very important that the School Board and the Superintendent recognizes the vital functions that we serve in every school in our district and that is NOT part-time and it's not a function that can be served by a community volunteer as has been suggested. That really minimizes our value when you think all we do is check in books and check out books. We serve our community, our administrators, our faculties and our students and we serve them pretty cheaply. If you could put a full-time media specialist in every school in our district and have it fully staffed for \$7 million dollars, I think that is a bargain. Thank you.

Ms. Pam Picray said I proudly serve Duval County for my 24th year, now, as the media specialist currently assigned to Andrew Robinson Elementary School and I'm thrilled to be here, tonight, unfortunately, under these circumstances. I have worked with many of you in the past and I'm a proud graduate of Wolfson High School and my daughter is a proud graduate of Stanton College Prep and now works here in the community through the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Connie Hall gave me a chance as a young woman, freshly out of the United States Army, serving as a medical librarian, gave me the opportunity to work for the school system and then go back to UNF to pick up my education degree. I did that proudly and with honor. Mr. Lee, as you know, you and I stood on the stage at the Reading Celebration last year, almost blown off by gale force winds, giving every child that deserved that medal they deserved. Being a school

library media specialist is a full-time job that many of us still find time to volunteer in the community. In addition to our instructional role, we develop the collection that meets the needs of our students and staff and, yet, the suggestion was made that community volunteers can do our jobs. I've emailed all of you and I'm sure you're tired of seeing my name in your mailbox and to one of you I responded as far as volunteerism. I am a recent volunteer for a major nonprofit organization here in town. As many hours and as much time I dedicated to that organization, I would never dare think that as a volunteer I could do that job for those employees. I am there to relieve them of the hours they can concentrate fully on the important aspects of their job. We have been told in some cases that, as volunteers, parents can come in and check our books in and out for us but we do so much more than that. Will volunteers engage students in literacy and teach them how to do research? Can they assist teachers in selecting materials for their lessons or troubleshoot equipment problems. Can they manage and maintain the collections? How do you think books appear on the shelves? It is the job of determining the needs of our students searching for just the right books and resources, obtaining quotes from vendors, ordering and processing materials...can you image what might happen to our inventories if left to a volunteer? Please consider funding a full-time media specialist in every school.

Pastor Ted Corley said "thank you" to Dr. Vitti. I understand that you attended almost every graduation and I want you to know that parents appreciate your presence and I thank you for that. As the School Board members, I calculated just this past month, that you are averaging \$2.25 an hour in pay and that's only .25 cents an hour more than I made when I graduated from high school in 1966. So, you have made big bucks so thank you for your commitment to our kids. It is so important and I'm confident that most people don't understand the kind of sacrifice and commitment that is required of you for this job. Many of you have other jobs and other responsibilities and families and yet, you're here for long hours to work out issues that are of the utmost importance and I thank you and I believe the community thanks you. I believe the future of Duval County Public Schools is not just "good", but it is "great". I'm very interested in seeing the graduation rate and I'm praying that it is up and that the FCAT scores will be better than ever. I've had experience at Northwestern and will celebrate with them and you, Ms. Wright, with their success, they well deserve it as they've worked very hard. Without the School Board and the Superintendent, those things would not be possible. Your commitment to their success makes it a reality, so thank you and our community thank you. Remember, that your legacy is not now but after you are gone and will they look back on this School Board and say, "*Wow, look what they did in those years they had in leadership!*" Thank you very much.

Ms. Pervalia Gaines McIntosh said I'm speaking to you as an advocate for students and as an ambassador for education for over ten years in this district. Recently, the Superintendent released principal changes for the upcoming school year. Although there has been an outcry for my community due to some of these changes, I'm willing to stand behind the Superintendent in this case. As I have observed decision making based on research, justice and good judgment on his part. So, based on that criteria, alone, I'm here tonight to implore Superintendent Vitti with making the next wave of changes to reinstate George Maxey as a principal in this district. I'm asking for a thorough investigation from the Superintendent's office into the incident that took place in 2011 that led to the removal of Principal Maxey. George Maxey was not given due process and there was a rush to judgment and impulsive actions taken unfairly against

him and the students of this district. Also, our state law encourages school districts to not report some incidents as deemed by school personnel to law enforcement when it does not pose a threat to school safety. Therefore, I want to speak to the Board, tonight because this incident, in my opinion, showcases the need for the Board to take responsibility for this district. The Code of Student Conduct which was used as a basis to force Principal Maxey's resignation states, *"The Board is responsible for conveying to the community and parents that the actions taken by the local schools will be supported for the good of the school system and the community, as a whole."* That did not happen in this case and as a matter of fact, the Board allowed then Superintendent Pratt-Dannals to break a state law, allowing a press conference to terminate Maxey, publicly, instead of his required ten days to dispute the allegations or for any real investigation to be conducted. For that reason, I implore this Board to ensure that you go to bat for your subordinates when they are following the law and rules and regulations you set forth. I have conducted my own media investigation into this case and I'm submitting it, tonight, for your review and consideration. I hope after reading this you will overturn the previous administration's decision and reinstate George Maxey as a principal in this district. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Eunice Barnum said let me just start out by saying I concur with Ms. Gaines. I, too, feel that Mr. Maxey needs to be returned to his job. He demonstrated that he cared about children. That's what I wish a whole lot of you would do - demonstrate that our children are your number one stakeholder. They are the reason you receive dividends. I need to make certain that you, professional folk, degree toting, got it going on...you are broken because your failure rate supersedes your success rate. That's never good and I don't care who you are. When you fail more than you succeed, you have a problem. Now, with that being said, I want to encourage parents to take their rightful place at the head of the class. Get in line, stand your ground and fight for your children. When the educators can not educate, we have a problem. Time and time, again, I've heard all of the accolades, but you are violating your own mission statement and Code of Ethics. I didn't write it but just read it and I ask that you all do the same. Are you ever compelled to take classes on the laws that govern you in your duties? When I read the laws and see what is supposed to govern you, you are failing miserably and your failure ends up causing our children to fail. I, as a parent and grandparent, am tired because failure is FREE. I don't need to pay trillions of dollars to the federal government, state nor local employees for failure. The children can stay home with their parents and fail for free and then we wouldn't need all of you. If you can't get it right, you've had years and years of failure, and for years and years you've said to us as parents, *"We're going to get it right the next time; we're working on it; we try hard; we this, we that."* I say, "don't try, let's succeed".

Ms. Yvonne Ferguson Dimato, principal at Mayport Elementary School, and I'm here this evening to speak to the value of high quality voluntary pre-k programs in our public schools. Over three years ago, Mayport Elementary was actually privileged to open up an exceptional pre-k class and that class was very successful as evidenced by the fact that we had a full roster of children all year and a very long waiting list to get into this class. Also evidenced by the fact that when we opened up registration in the spring for the following school year, within one week of opening up registration, we had a full roster for the next school year. So, unfortunately, we had to call those parents back because that program was not funded the following year and we met with many disappointed parents and a hugely disappointed community, and we feel that the calls

and Ms. Myrna Amos feels that many calls for weeks trying to explain to our community members why we were not able to offer a pre-k program for our children and families any longer. I don't think the parents of that 2010-2011 pre-k class need to be convinced of the value of pre-k for their children. They don't need to read the reports and extensive research out there that we are all very familiar with that speaks to the academic gains that children that go to pre-k experience as opposed to their counter-parts that don't go. They make exceedingly greater gains in literacy and language and mathematics. I don't think the parents on the next school year's waiting list need to read the report such as that that was put out by the 2006 National Institute for Early Education. Students that attend a full-day VPK program outperform their counterparts that only attended one-half day program. I think the research is clear. I was the last one to leave school today and came across a parent who was walking up to my school with his two small children and asked how I could help him. He wanted to know how he could enroll his child in school next year in kindergarten. His sister is only four years old and perhaps, we will be able to offer pre-k next year, as well. I hope, as a principal, to be able to go back to my school tomorrow and call that Dad and offer a high quality program for pre-k next year.

Mr. Jon Heymann said I'd like to address the "Bridge to Success" program, the initiative that is addressing the overaged issue here. I think it's incredibly great when an initiative takes a laser type focus on a major issue and attacks it with passion. I am greatly appreciative of the resolve and the planning that the Superintendent and staff went into for this Bridge to Success program. As all of us know, students drift out and if we can identify those "drift out" points and make an initiative that attacks those points, then we'll make a massive and positive difference in those children's lives and being overage is clearly a drift out point. Bridge to Success, in my mind, is a targeted strategy and CIS is honored to be a partner of it. Communities in Schools, as most of you know, we are very deliberate and strategic in who and what we partner with and this project is amazing. We bring over 20 years of proof in history and data to the table and we believe this will prove to be a very successful initiative. Data such as In-School Support which is traditional case management - 86% promotion rate last year. Our students that we deal with are at the bottom half of the student population. Sometimes, the bottom half of the bottom half. Our after school program known as Team Up which serves over 4,200 kids, three hours every single day, has a promotion rate of 94%. Our Literacy Tutoring, this is one-on-one, paid tutors all day, every day, has a promotion rate of 89%. Achievers for Life program, an award winning United Way funded program, has a promotion rate of 97%. So, our years of experience and our data will be brought to the table for this initiative. We're very excited about it. I'll leave this as a document for each of you to dive deeper into the initiatives that CIS has done. Thank you very much.

Ms. Vivian Jenkins said I'm here for the asking for consideration of Mr. George Maxey regarding the event that took place in 2011. As a parent, I have two students currently at Raines High School; one will be a senior and the other, a junior. As a mother, I took in a homeless child from that school and she, too, will be a senior at Raines next year. I've known Mr. Maxey since middle school. He turned successfully, a failing school into a "B" school. This man has done outstanding work with children in this community and in school. What happened in 2011 is a shame. What the School Board did to Mr. Maxey was a shame and they moved too quickly without a thorough investigation that should have taken place. Then to have him criminally charged and then thrown out is a

disgrace and it showed nothing towards those students who not only look towards him as their principal but also, as a father to many who do not have a father. This man is a leader and he's strong within the community, the school and this district. That was a bad mistake made at that school with Mr. Maxey and you need to correct it; not only for me as a parent but for the students in that community. We love Mrs. Brown and she's doing a beautiful job and as I stand here and support Mr. Maxey, I also will support her, as well. It was a mistake that was made with Mr. Maxey, I hope it will not be made to her or any other good, hardworking principal in this county. I ask and plead with you to reconsider your decision that was done to Mr. George Maxey.

Ms. Pam Paul said I'm speaking to you on behalf of the Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF) to thank you for your partnership in the Pep Rally for Excellence. We're so excited to see the district and community coming together and through the Strategic Plan, the alignment of really dozens of community partners putting on this spectacular event for 7,000 children and families and community members. They were mostly excitedly to see Dr. Vitti and Mayor Brown getting dunked - thank you very much for being a good sport! I want to thank you for considering the new Bridge to Success program. The Learning to Finish partnership which includes the Community Foundation in Jacksonville, United Way and JPEF has been very supportive of the district doing more for overaged students and we commend this effort to expand and scale your partnership with other community organizations to make these programs for overaged students happen. Thank you for all the work you're doing on behalf of Duval County Public Schools students.

Ms. Felicia W. Hardaway said I am the principal of North Shore Elementary School. I stand before you, today, in support of having additional pre-kindergarten units in schools. Having additional units will allow schools to prepare more students for kindergarten and beyond. I currently have two pre-k units which houses 36 students. However, I have 6 kindergarten classes which means I'm only preparing 36 of those 120+ students for kindergarten. Many of my kindergarten students, it is their first time ever in school. They are unprepared instructionally as it relates phonological awareness, letter recognition, number recognition, skills that kindergartners should know as well as social skills. Parents use pre-k programs as a wrap around service for all of their students opposed to having to go several schools. Not having pre-k units in schools, many students do not attend school because parents would have to travel to several places. Having more pre-k classes in schools will allow more students to be more prepared for kindergarten and beyond. At this time, I would like to thank Mr. Heid and Dr. Vitti for allowing me to have an additional unit this year which will be a blended unit. Please consider adding more pre-k units to other schools in this district. Thank you.

Ms. Taschiana "Tash" Anderson spoke about Darnell Cookman. I am a parent of two students at Darnell Cookman and I'd like to speak authentically and vulnerably, at this time. The school attests to have many strengths and while they are in place, there are many epic fails at Darnell Cookman, at this time. I think schools need to go back to the basics. I felt that my experience this year, along with many of the middle school teachers, omitted the basic communication with parents. With technology the way it is, you can text a parent, email or call a parent. None of those things were put in place. When you reached out for help at higher levels, it just wasn't there. I reached out to several different people and it was a "missed" call each and every time. We never could

resolve anything. I feel as a parent, we need to partner with the schools. Education is the foundational skill that students need and it's more important than being able to eat if you can not be an educated being in this society. You will not be able to feed yourself later on in life. It is just too important for people or teachers that are influential in our childrens' lives to not be able to partner with the parents. These children are minors and they can not take care of themselves. It is too important not to have that in place. I'd also like to talk about teacher placement and how that process is done. It was evident this year that many teachers were in places that they did not want to be in. It showed in teacher planning and it proved failures on behalf of the teacher, the parents and students. If we have a teacher who loves to teach another subject and we move them to somewhere to teach something else, it becomes a failure for both the teacher and the student. We need to keep teachers in their comfort zone. I did have a very good experience with the assistant principal who tries to work many issues out. Duval County, as a school system, really needs to go back to the basics and core subjects: reading, math and language arts. It's just too vital and we wonder why these other countries are accelerating beyond us. It's time for us to go back.

Mr. Evan Daniels said I have the pleasure of serving as building principal at Matthew Gilbert Middle School. It is indeed an honor to share with the DCPS community how excited I, along with my colleagues are, about recent conversations related to potential overage academies becoming part of Duval County's reality. The district has had several initiatives in the past to assist with overage population. While beneficial, they haven't had as much traction as expected. The foundational concepts that have been laid by these programs have served as a spring board to this new initiative and, indeed, fragile population of students, it's imperative that we leave them where they are and provide opportunities to extend educational goals. In order to provide these students with a meaningful and quality educational experience, it requires a multitude of committed resources and support. Recognizing that strong teachers and leaders are an essential ingredient for student success, I am thrilled to know that key supports and interventions will be available such as: emotional and social support through mentors, social workers and guidance counselors; positive behavior support and interventions; support for attendance; parent involvement activities; structured after school programs including extra-curricular activities, elective courses, career exploration and internship opportunities. In closing, participating students in the Bridge to Success project have the opportunity to reach greater realms of individual achievement. I am, indeed, elated to know that this structured plan has a propensity to impact a large number of students within Duval County Public Schools that are currently two or more years overage for their grade level. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Sabrina Hall said I am delighted to say that I am the *Teacher of the Year* from the awesome Andrew Jackson High School and it is with deep pleasure that I say "thank you" for a job well done for nominating or selecting my principal as a Regional Chief for the Duval County School Board. I started at Andrew Jackson four years ago and at that time, I can tell you that from then until now, there has been nothing less than astonishing change. Change going from our students feeling that they belong and are a part of an awesome and wonderful environment and change with teachers. I want to talk about Ms. Wright. Every decision that I've seen that she's made at our school has had a child's face on it. She has proven that she is 200% invested in everything we do from the students to the teachers. She makes sure that the students have equitable resources. I served as a substitute teacher for a year before I started teaching so I was

able to visit quite a few schools and see the resources. I worked in "corporate America" so I knew what the kids were going into so when I came to the school district, I was told I was using an overhead projector and then I saw the CRT computers which I know Ms. Wright fought for those things. Last year we received flat screen computers and all teachers have overhead projectors. We're grateful for her leadership and we're proud to be a "Tiger"!

Mr. Henry Colado said I'm, also, from Andrew Jackson High School and many of our faculty could not be here, tonight, but we do have a statement and feel compelled to make this statement with enthusiastic support of Dr. Vitti's recommendation for Ms. Iranetta Wright as a Regional Chief. Ms. Wright has definitely been an agent of change at the school. I was there before she was there and still there as she's leaving. I don't want to see her go but the agent of change is more important for the larger community; the greater good. A couple of things that she did was one that she came into a school that was challenged by some negative outside forces within our community at-large. She's was able to control those forces and bring a safe environment to Andrew Jackson; the campus was always safe. Andrew Jackson's sports facility is off the campus away from the learning facility which was also safe. Under her leadership after the safety was established, she had a vision which was sustained and she keep us moving and she never lost sight of that vision which was success for every student. She kept us all on track and we earned a "B" for our school grade. With that grade, it has awakened our community to once again believe in public education. At our graduation, I heard the Superintendent say that, "*Without public education, we do not have democracy*" and I believe that to be true. My two sons graduated from public education and I did, as well. We enthusiastically support the Superintendent's recommendation for hiring Iranetta Wright to be the Regional Chief. Thank you very much.

Ms. Sabrina Zinamon said I, too, stand to support Iranetta Wright. As a parent of a 2009 Andrew Jackson graduate, I saw some changes as she entered the building. When I walked into the school, it wasn't just a culture shock but a shock, period. I thought, "What is going on with this school?" I'm not saying the teachers didn't do what they were supposed to do. I'm just saying that my daughter didn't know what was going on, either. My daughter was entering her senior year when Ms. Wright became principal at Andrew Jackson and she made such a difference and impact in that one year. As an aggressive and sensitive leader, she has been very student focused. As chairperson for the School Advisory Council at Andrew Jackson High School, she has really helped me learn alot about many issues and vital concerns for the school to make sure that the teachers received what they needed and that we voted in a timely manner. She focused on the needs of the students and helped to improve the school. She walked in dangerous territory and everything has improved. When you walk into Andrew Jackson High School now, there's a totally different environment than it was a few years ago. Ms. Wright is very structured, organized and dedicated to the students and faculty. So, if she does that on the high school level, look out district, the Regional Chief is on...She recognizes that every student has a potential and not all student will make straight "A's" and/or have perfect attendance. Every senior walked away with something - a gift and an award. Many times, she purchased these things, herself. She has been an amazing and dynamite gift to this school and to the students and she will be so to the entire district. Don't let her get away. Thank you.

Dr. Larry G. Daniel said I'm Dean of the College of Education in Human Services at the

University of North Florida. I would like to echo the comments of several principals and Mr. Heymann from Communities in Schools in favor of the Bridge to Success project and the commitment the district has made to the success of middle and high school students. The project's results, to date, speak to the district's efforts very positively and we at UNF are 100% supportive of the district expanding this very successful program. UNF's school counseling Supporters Of Academic Rigor or SOAR program has enjoyed a long history of collaborative success with Duval County and UNF working in tandem with DCPS has been instrumental in preparing the best school counselors in Florida and perhaps, the United States as part of the National Transforming School Counseling initiative. Our SOAR faculty has worked collaboratively with Superintendent Vitti and Chief Andrew Post to determine a set of collaborative services and support the SOAR program will offer to the Bridge to Success project. I will recognize two of our SOAR faculty - Dr. Caroline Stone and Dr. Rebecca Shumaker - please stand. They are present tonight and these faculty are committed to this important work and to partnership with the school district. The SOAR program is committed to providing needs assessments with each individual school counselor in the program. We will conduct group professional development three times during the year and we will develop a series of classroom and small group guidance lessons to assist those involved. That doesn't end our support as we're also committed to working with the district to find grant funding to support a variety of additional services related to the Bridge to Success project. We have developed a set of measurable objectives for all of these activities. We would like to include increasing the basic services that I mentioned already and in addition, to provide on call support to the school counselors involved in the SOAR program. Mentorship activities for students and provision of college and career fairs for all middle and high school students. We stand ready to work with you and are pleased to see the district's commitment to assure the success of our overaged students.

Mr. Edward Exson said with six charter schools being considered tonight, will there be any public schools left? With the deplorable condition in the black community, I must still condemn the black leadership including 97% of black preachers who are unscrupulous in their leadership. The force of gravity is no comparison to the above leadership pulling down their people. That same leadership abhorrence of the "N" word is firm and united yet they have the utmost tolerance for conduct by their people that depicts the "N" word which belies the moral code. With all that is on our children, how do we expect them to learn? The court has taken prayer out of school which is not our problem. School is about "A, B, C's and 123's", reading, math and science. It's about teachers and professors teaching students how to think and instill knowledge to build, develop and produce to add to the GDP bringing prosperity to all. Saving and investing, owning land is the only way to improve our lot. Not 70% of our babies born to unwed mothers can change our fortunes through welfare; it won't work. Being inundated with store front black churches, blacks won't own five stores in Jacksonville to sell milk for the babies. Baby daddys aberrant behavior brags how many babies he's sired. As we wait, there are two cases that decisions are coming down from the Supreme Court that could seal blacks' fate for the next 100 years. The previous administration's judicial appointments have already set black back 50 years. Those cases are *Fisher v. University of Texas*. If Fisher prevails, "good bye higher education to blacks". In *Shelby County v. Holder*, where parts of the 1965 Voting Rights Act would be dismantled. My other concern is the elimination of blacks called "useless eaters" in the discussion at the Builderberg Conference. It is in our best interest to detour from our present course, as this road leads to total destruction and even extinction. Thank

you!

Ms. Shameka Caldwell said I just wanted to take the opportunity to say that I appreciate middle school Assistant Principal Jay Marinelli for being such a strong pillar throughout the long duration of frustration and chaos during the lack of accountability, structure and passion to teach from some of the teachers my daughter has been assigned to for her first year of middle/high school. Unlike the principal and assigned Board member, he was one not to ignore, pass the buck, pacify or render excuses. Instead, he listened to valid concerns such as lack of engagement via teachers when teaching, five math teachers for one class; no communication when parents reach out to the teachers; lack of communication between teachers when rendering assignments, teachers not upgrading the grade portal in a timely fashion and unprofessional behavior of teachers which create a poor learning environment. I'm sad about a fact that the middle school AP, a person of high integrity, strong moral values and an intense passion for the success of children will not be returning to Darnell Cookman and would like for this decision to be reconsidered. I understand there are multiple factors but its all about the children. He has been one to bring forth resolution as well as being proactive. He has exemplified various characteristics which show a true concern and high standard of education for our children. I also would like to thank the Chief Clusters and liaison for recently lifting the bondage of his hand to allow morally correct actions to take place. I look forward to the opportunity in sharing processes and improvement ideas with the Chief Clusters such as but not limited to 6th grade orientation which would inform parents and students recourse and expectations to assist in their success. Thank you for your time.

Mr. Jim Cox said I'm a retired salesman. Four years ago, I was convinced to go to work for John E. Ford as the business and volunteer liaison. Since that time and if you don't reconsider, we will have our fourth principal in four years. Now, I can't speak for teachers and staff that are here, but as the volunteer liaison and business liaison, Ms. Parker who you are going to be moving, has been very instrumental in helping me do the job that I do which is not as an educator and certainly not as a salesman. This is what I do. I find money, I find people and I find stuff that you can't afford to give us. Continuity is important. I go out to the business community and I convince them that we're worth their time and effort. I convince them to give me money. I write grants to other people to get money and from that money and those things we've been able to do over the last four years, with the help of all the principals but especially Ms. Parker, as the AP and now, principal, included a butterfly garden, 20 vegetable gardens, painting all of the murals and most recently, a food pantry for students of our school and their families that are in trouble and need some help. With our business partners and that continuity that I've tried to get, we have Shiloh Baptist Church, Simpson Metropolitan Methodist Church, Brickman (landscape company), a wing at NAS JAX and Central Credit (collection company). Ms. Parker has been instrumental in helping us. We've qualified for the Five Star twice and Golden Award every year that I've been doing this. Keep some continuity and please reconsider your position on moving Ms. Parker to somewhere else. Please allow me to continue doing what I love to do. John E. Ford is no longer a part time job; it's become my ministry. It's what I do. thank you.

Mr. Robert Slama said I was born in the Bronx and I understand, Dr. Vitti, that you taught in the Bronx. I went to St. Theresa's so we come from similar backgrounds, I guess. This place that we are currently in brings to us a number of challenges. I just

found out this morning and my sons go to John E. Ford, that there was a change forthcoming, brought about largely by budget cuts. Now, certainly we all know that the budgets, changes and administrators brings challenges but my question that I have for all of you because tonight you have some difficult choices to make, budgets always force choices, but I suppose that choice needs to be based on values and our children, so what I'm asking is this...my two boys go there. We are part of the John E. Ford community. I can tell you about the job this principal is doing. She has the support of the school staff, parents and the children. She has made progress. Would it be fair to ask any of you that inside of a year that you produce results that certainly inside one year, you can't even measure? Whether it be the Superintendent's job? You've come in with goals. I've read your goals in September when you came in. You said something like that,

"I want to move the schools from 'good' to 'great!'" How do you move a school when in the process, you undermine the very people who are trying to move it? We've been working with this principal so you just don't change her. What you've done to every parent who has committed his/her time and energy...I'm an attorney. I spend most of my days helping other people work with the School Board and other administrators in this town trying to work through and resolve problems but this problem now, comes home to me. I have two boys who go there and look forward to remaining there. What you want is to build on the successes of the past, build bridges between these students and their families. You all know that doesn't happen over night and when you have a good bridge builder building that bridge, why would you want to stop it? Now, I don't know what you do with the problem or with the administrators that are now being reduced to principals looking for a home. This economy has brought changes and challenges, never before seen, in my life time but the last part of this problem is that the children shouldn't suffer. We have a principal and I'm looking forward to seeing her next year. I don't know what to tell her or the other children about budget cuts, but that's not their problem and not what they signed up for. They signed up for school, an education, and that we would know what to do. The other members may or may not be able to participate and everyone to speak, tonight. I've spoken with people at the school. I had to call the press and I thank Kristopher from the Times-Union. He emailed me some of the stats on the FCAT and such to find out what is going on. It's about a partnership; what you want and everyone who has spoken so far is, when you can get a partnership going and the success of education is always a partnership. John E. Ford, you have it and 100 days, Superintendent, you said you would come out and see most of the schools, please visit John E. Ford. You will not be sorry! Thank you for your time.

Comments From Parent Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

PTA - Gretchen Lynch, President:

Good Evening. Duval County Council of PTAs ends the year with over 29,000 members. This past year PTAs have provided programming in their school communities in the areas such as parent education, health and safety, common core, advocacy and teacher appreciation. We want to congratulate Lone Star Elementary PTA, Loretto Elementary PTA, Julia Landon PTSA and Stanton PTSA for being named PTAs of the year.

This year 928 students participated in our Reflections Art program. 5 Duval County Seniors from Mandarin, Stanton, Frank Peterson, Ribualt and Paxon received scholarships with funds donated from our local PTAs. 99 of our PTAs hosted vision screening. Students with demonstrated need received eye exams and glass paid for by DCCPTA's Eyeglass Fund. Our advocacy efforts continued this year with a January postcard campaign and parent education about legislative issues taking place in our meetings and through our email blast system. We believe PTAs statewide advocacy work played a key role in the defeat of the parent trigger bill and on the passing of our state's first texting and driving legislation.

PTA would not have been able to be a voice for children this year without the welcome and support given to us by our school principals, teachers, school board, district staff and superintendent.

So on behalf of our 29,000 PTA members we serve, thank you. We appreciate the opportunity to work alongside Duval County Public Schools on behalf of children in hope that all children will reach their full potential by engaging and empowering families and community to advocate for their needs.

District Advisory Council - Juanita Franklin-Banton

No report this evening.

Title I - Parent Advisory Council - Kim Rivers, Chair

No report this evening.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes: *No report for this meeting.*

Chairman's Report

[1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

On a sad note, I'd like to recognize the passing of a former School Board Chairman, principal and teacher, Donald Buckley. He served on the Board in the late 1980's-early 1990's and spent 28 years with Duval County Public Schools. Our condolences go out to his family.

Deacon David MacNamara served as the School Board Chaplain for many, many years. Our condolences go out to his family, as well. He contributed so many things to our community and we appreciated his service..

I'd like to acknowledge and think alot of this lady - Dr. Sally Hague - please stand and be recognized. Dr. Hague is retiring after a 45 career beginning in 1968 teaching in Duval County and will end her career on June 30, 2013. She is retiring as Executive Director of School Choice/Pupil Assignment. In other words, she is our "Magnet Queen" and she has done so very much for that program, fostering and seeing it all the way through. We wanted to thank you for your commitment and all you've done for this school district.

I'm very proud of all the hard work and results of students and teachers. We just wrapped up another school year and I want to say "thank you" to those students, teachers, principals and support staff. I hope you have a wonderful summer holiday but please reach out to our website and continue with summer learning. There are many oppotunities on our website so ensure you don't lose the gains you've made.

The Board has been very busy and will continue over the next 60 days as we now officially begin preparing for the school opening. Much has to occur during this process and one of the big pieces is finalizing the budget in which we still have much work yet to do.

The Board will be giving Superintendent Vitti his first evaluation which is by contract, an abbreviated evaluation to get us off and rolling for a fiscal school year. The date is June 20, 2013, 9:00 am in Conference Room 613 and the public is welcome.

Superintendent's Report

[1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes: Dr. Vitti gave a PowerPoint presentation on 2013 FCAT, EOC (End of Course) Scores and district updates (*See attachment*).

Reports

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 10, 2013, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the June 10, 2013, Agenda as submitted on June 3, 2013, with the following changes:

1. Human Resource Services - Staffing - Item 20 - Human Resource Services Transactions - Attachment Added; Attachment Revised
2. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Item 24 - Suspension Without Pay and Termination - Robert Ivy - Item Withdrawn
3. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Item 25 - Suspension Without Pay and Termination - Jacquelyn Johnson - Item Withdrawn - PASS
4. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Item 28 - Suspension Without Pay and Termination - Kedra Stanley - Item Withdrawn
5. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Item 31 - Suspension Without Pay and Termination - Peter Keeves - Item Withdrawn
6. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Item 37 - Suspension Without Pay - Catherine Wilkes - Item Withdrawn

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Connie Hall

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

- May 3, 2013 - Board Development Meeting
- May 7, 2013 - Regular Board Meeting
- May 20, 2013 - Special Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Minutes for the Meetings listed in the Agenda Item.

- May 3, 2013 - Board Development Meeting - PASS
- May 7, 2013 - Regular Board Meeting
- May 20, 2013 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye

Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:	
That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: Cheryl Grymes	
Second: Rebecca Couch	
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Consent Agenda

Academic Services

[1. CONTINUATION OF FLORIDA INCLUSION NETWORK\(FIN\) GRANT-FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION](#)

Attachment: [Florida Inclusion Network Budget Summary.pdf](#)

[2. CONTINUATION OF FLORIDA DIAGNOSTIC AND LEARNING RESOURCES GRANT](#)

[\(FDLRS\) - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION](#)

[7. SCCM/MDM PURCHASE AND IMPLEMENTATION](#)

Attachment: [WO \(DCPS - SCCM and MDM\) \(FP\) USSLGE-E13053708 \(2\).pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Hall said she pulled this item for clarity for the public because it's carrying a pretty hefty price tag, as well. I think as we move along with our reform efforts that it's good to know how we're moving and what it all means. When I look at the purchase of Microsoft Implementation, would you give us a general idea what that is and how it's going to be used?

Dr. Vitti said this mobile device management system allows for the automatic transfer of content to one-go-one devices so as we try to move to a more digital content delivery model, this will facilitate that process. Next year, because of our QZAB grant which will focus on many of our high poverty schools, we will be moving to a one-to-one device approach and this purchase allows for that information to be downloaded on one-to-one. We're also trying to look at expanding the one-to-one device for our ESE students and possibly, gifted students. At the secondary level for our struggling readers moving to the one-to-one device, as well, for the next school year and this purchase allows us to facilitate the transfer of the content.

Speakers:

Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief of Operations

Mr. Fred E. Lee, Board Chairman

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

[8. Purchase of District Wide Diagnostic Assessments of Reading \(DAR\) for grades K-12 for the 2013-2014 School Year](#)

Attachment: [Duval County FL Schools Testing Agreement 2013-05-23f DAR.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Hall said this item has a pretty hefty price tag, as well. Having used DAR, I know that it's an excellent diagnostic tool determining readability and reading levels and I think that is something our teachers will certainly appreciate. I'd like the Superintendent to give us a little more information about how teachers will utilize it.

Dr. Vitti said the one area of concern raised by teachers at the Town Hall meeting was the use of FAIR and it was not completely user friendly. DAR is much more prescriptive and has evolved to be something that can be used on a computer or paper and pencil. It allows teachers to get the exact information regarding the deficiency a student has regarding the reading

continual, from prefix suffixes to letter recognition, letter sounds, blending, etc. It will be one-to-one administered. We will use it across the board in kindergarten through third grade and after that point, only use it for students that are below grade level. It will be a part of the Teacher Academy this summer and we'll have ongoing training through our reading coaches at everyone of our schools regarding the use of the DAR. It will allow for the skill-based deficiencies to be targeted much easier than alot of teachers found it as far as grabbing that data from the FAIR. It will take training with our teachers because it is much more hands-on but the hands-on approach allows teachers, if administered the right way, to truly see the deficiency rather than just waiting for a computer to spit out what the deficiency is.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred E. Lee, Board Chairman

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

[9. Purchase of District Wide i-Ready Math Curriculum for grades K-12 for the 2013-2014 School Year](#)

Attachment: [iReady year 1 Quote.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Hall said I think when there's a new initiative or a program, it's good for the public to know or have a general idea that it's not just business, as usual, and that we are moving forward progressively and this has a hefty price tag, as well. I had to "Google" this just to see what it was and what it looked like. Mr. Superintendent, please, briefly, describe it for us and how it's going to be used.

Dr. Vitti said it's very similar to DAR and it allows us to go at the skill level deficiency for students. To move away from just benchmark assessments in intervention to skill level. Some of our schools have used the i-Ready process through their use of school-based funding and the feedback has been positive regarding the use. The beauty of i-Ready is that when you administer the assessment, you have clarity on the deficiency but then the intervention materials are directly aligned to the deficiency. So, as we have students work in small groups or teachers are working with students in small groups or we have an interventionist coming into the classroom to work with the students, it's the clarity on what should be worked on will be there unlike it is right now. It is also computer-based so that students take the assessment clarity under the deficiency and then they retake that assessment at the skill level so that we can see improvement through out the year.

[10. Purchase of District-Wide Iowa Assessments for K-11 Reading for the 2013-2014 School Year](#)

Attachment: [Duval County FL Schools Testing Agreement 2013-05-23f iowa.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Duval County IOWA Testing Quote.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Hall said I pulled this item for explanation on how it is going to be used. Is this a one time cost?

Dr. Vitti said, "Yes, it is; it's for this year, the 2013-2014 school year."

Dr. Hall asked if we would decide next year or do we just replenish?

Dr. Vitti said the exact cost maybe less the following year. I don't know what the cost would be but no more than what it is now, and possibly less depending on the materials that are purchased for 2013-2014. The thought behind the IOWA is that as a school district and many districts face the same challenges in Florida, is we never really see grade level reading ability of students. Although we believe that is what the FCAT does, that's not what the FCAT does. The FCAT allows us to know where a student stands with grade level bench marks but not actual grade level readability. So what the IOWA will do at the beginning and end of the year, allow us to see at the beginning of the year where are students are with their readability; 3rd grade or 5th grade level? Again, FCAT informs us of that but it's not truly a readability test. That will also inform our placing a student in reading classes. So often times, just because a student receives a Level II on the FCAT, we assume he/she should be in the remediation reading class. That should not, necessarily, be the case so we will have IOWA tell us where exactly is that student as far as their reading level/grade level and then the DAR will allow us to administer the skills test deficiency. So, it offers us another opportunity to get insight into where a student is as far as the reading process and excitedly, at the end of the year, we should see improvement as far as grade level readability throughout our district which we don't really measure and we can't. As we move into the Common Core, the IOWA will allow us to have uniformed assessment over time to hopefully see that our students are increasing their grade level readability and we're not just focusing on FCAT or the Common Core.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools

[11. MICROSOFT ENROLLMENT FOR EDUCATION SOLUTIONS AGREEMENT](#)

Attachment: [SHI Quote-6570123-June 2013.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Hall said for my clarification looking at this item, does it mean that across the system we would have the latest versions of Microsoft products?

Dr. Vitti said, "I believe so, Mr. Heid?"

Mr. Fred Heid said, "It does. It will allow us to upgrade all of our systems, simultaneously and it will also allow usage of functionality at the home place because currently, our licenses are only allowed for teachers and students to be used on campus. So, as we transition from one initiative, this is will cover the usage and license agreements from home usage, as well."

Speakers:

Dr. Connie S. Hall, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Jim Culbert, Chief Information Officer
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools

Board Member Wright asked that tonight, we're approving this item and it's not just \$1.9 million dollars for 2013, it's the same amount, another \$1.9 million dollars for 2014 and another \$1.9 million dollars for 2015. So, we're not just approving the \$1.9 million dollars; we're approving approximately \$6 million dollars. I want to make certain that is, in fact, clear.

Dr. Vitti said it is a three year commitment and it is embedded in the budget for 2013-2014 and then the subsequent years. Obviously, considering where we're at and I think this has been a reality over the years, Microsoft is just a reality with running the district. It would be a cost and part of the budget for subsequent years.

Ms. Wright said I wanted to make certain for the public since we do receive calls and emails saying you voted for something that is not \$1.9 million dollars but in fact almost \$6 million dollars. I just wanted to be totally clear. Thank you.

School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[13. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR LUCIOUS AND EMMA NIXON OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, INC. TO OPEN LUCIOUS AND EMMA NIXON ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Couch said I pulled this item because it was the first one on the list. Many of my comments will not be directly related to this particular charter school but all of the contracts that we received. That way, we didn't have to go through each individual contract with the same questions as we've encountered that, in the past. My question is, "If a contract has, because we have some pending contracts, not been negotiated and approved with the district, can a charter school still enroll students and hire staff before that contract is approved?"

Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Legal Officer, said, "First, to hiring staff, there's no funding or anything like that, so these are organizations that are duly formed and that's a decision that they make, that's their business, so to speak. As far as enrollment, they may be accepting applications but the enrollment is effectuated through the work the district and it is my understanding that the actual completion of the enrollment process wouldn't come to fruition until there is an approved charter school contract."

Ms. Couch asked Ms. Chastain to explain Section H, Item 5 on page 17. I think it's a uniformed contract so, again, this is not particular to one specific, but to the contracts and while we have that language in there...

Ms. Chastain said, "During the application process, there were a number of concerns raised and one of them was the application process that it was, for example, non-discriminatory but there wouldn't be some sort of indirect discrimination for ESE or ESOL students and things like that. So, paragraph 1 addresses that and you're right, it's uniformed throughout all of the contracts that are before you, tonight. Were there other sections within H?"

Ms. Couch said, "There is followup to that particular section. Will a charter school be able to prevent a student to re-enroll if the parent does not follow through with volunteer hours through the parent contract?"

Ms. Chastain said, "No, the contract addresses that. Eligibility is defined in statute as to the types of students that can enroll and that our contract makes it clear that the act or omission of the parent via the parent contract can not result in discipline, non-re enrollment for the next year or certainly not, expulsion because expulsion always lies with this Board."

Ms. Couch as Ms. Chastain to explain Section H, Item 1 on page 17 and, again, why did we include that?

Ms. Chastain said, "This was actually along with my first comment that the application process can't be discriminatory so it's things like asking for information that isn't necessary at the application process. For example: student records, transfer with a student when the enrollment process is completed."

Ms. Couch said, "So, asking for an IEP just to enter into a lottery when in reality, if they get chosen through the lottery, they would get the IEP (Individual Education Plan)?"

Ms. Chastain said, "That is correct."

[14. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR ACCLAIM ACADEMY OF FLORIDA, INC. TO OPEN ACCLAIM ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL - DUVAL CENTER](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Couch said this if for Ms. Chastain, "Could you please explain what will happen if the charter school fails to get the NDCC certification? There's a second part to that...if it does fail, would they be able to defer the contract and not use the NDCC and change format of how they even apply?"

Ms. Chastain said, "For this particular application, it was key to their program that they received the NDCC certification. So, the way the contract is written, is that they have this applicant and if approved, this charter school will have a time certain to receive the NDCC certification. I think it's by July 26. If it's not received, then the contract language provides that it is an automatic deferral year and so the school wouldn't open because it's missing that key ingredient, so to speak, of their academic program. Also, in the contract, it is key that at some point, if not this year then by next year, the NDCC certification must be received or the school doesn't open."

Ms. Couch said, "I believe on these contracts, I saw, also, a minimum enrollment to be able to sustain the facility. Can you explain that and why we included that in our contract?"

Ms. Chastain said, "This arose out of an unfortunate circumstance where we, the Board, had to close a school several years ago because the school didn't plan financially for what expenses lie in operating a charter school. It's typically expensive to pay rent. It's expensive to pay for personnel to provide the teaching services and to operate the school. In that particular case, the school was evicted within the first few months of operation and had no place to operate the school. So, as a result of that, we ask in our contracts, and it is required and it's been embedded in our contracts for several years, that the schools engage in the planning of providing a minimum enrollment budget so that from the stage where the application is approved, and we receive budget materials, by the time you're negotiating the contract, the applicant has a more refined idea of what expenses they may have. By that point, for example, they may have already engaged in lease negotiations or whatever it is for their facilities so the number is more real rather than speculative at the application stage. So, it's the exercise of the fiscal planning for the applicant going into the contract stage to know how many students which the revenue per student is attached and how many students must they enroll in order to be solvent."

Ms. Couch asked Dr. Vitti to share with the public as to how we're preparing for a decrease in enrollment in our budget if these schools open in their proposed capacity?

Dr. Vitti said, "At this point, we are anticipating any where from 9,000 to over 10,000 students leaving Duval County Public Schools for charter schools. I think alot of the actual numbers starting in 2013-2014 will be based on the performance of charter schools based on 2012-2013 data, the

issuance of letter grades for charter schools and us and I also believe that I'm hopeful we will recruit students back to our school district. We are starting our marketing process this summer and we will target schools that have charter schools opening up near them and we will recruit students just like charter schools try to recruit our students. I do believe that charter schools are public schools and they are part of our school district but this is also competition. We will be sure to pound the pavement and get to the parents and explain to them the programs that we have in the neighborhood so they see what we can offer them. We will, hopefully, be obtaining a new magnet grant (crossing fingers) to offer some new and dynamic programs in schools and areas where we are vulnerable to charter schools and have lost students. We have budgeted to lose possibly about 9,000 students and that's based on the full enrollment of current charter schools and anywhere from 50-70% capacity of new charter schools, online and this is including projected enrollment at each school. It's obviously hard to project exactly how many students the new charter schools will bring on board. If a current charter school is expanding and that charter school has had high demands, then we've increased numbers at those schools. Charter schools that have been struggling academically, then we kept enrollment projections the same or possibly less but it's difficult from a budgetary and FTE point of view for our current schools."

[15. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR RIVER CITY EDUCATION SERVICES, INC. TO OPEN RIVER CITY SCIENCE ACADEMY- INNOVATION SCHOOL](#)

[16. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR THE SEASIDE PLAYGARDEN, INC. \(FORMERLY KNOWN AS SEASIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INC.\) TO OPEN SEASIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL](#)

[17. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR SCHOLAR PREPARATORY ACADEMY INC. TO OPEN SCHOLAR PREPARATORY ACADEMY](#)

[18. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR RIVER CITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION, INC. TO OPEN SAN JOSE ACADEMY](#)

[19. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR RIVER CITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION, INC. TO OPEN SAN JOSE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[20. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES TRANSACTIONS](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach 06-10-13 TRANS rev.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Hall said I pulled this item to talk about the administrative appointments and promotions. Certainly, we understand that this is the recommendation from the Superintendent and he's done his due diligence to do what his job is to do but I want to make a general comment in reference to our

employees who are going to a principalship and wish them the best because they're carrying with them quite a bit of content knowledge and experiences their new school assignments will be the beneficiary of that. It will certainly be beneficial to their students, staff and communities as they serve them. So, we certainly wish them well.

My other question is and to the Superintendent and we talked about this briefly in reference to the Region Chiefs. I know they will work very hard but my concern was elementary representation. Having known all four of them for some time and having worked with one during the elementary school experience, it's very important to have that content and recent knowledge because we have so many elementary schools and we want to strengthen that foundation so as the students go to secondary, that we're not rushing to fix them at that level. Dr. Vitti, please share with us your plan to strengthen the absence of an Elementary Chief with that expertise.

Dr. Vitti said, "Thank you for the question, Dr. Hall. We had about 15 applicants for the Region Chief position and I can say that the four individuals were picked based on their experience in multiple schools - mainly secondary as you indirectly mentioned. Some of them have teaching experience or assistant principal experience at the elementary level but I would define most of them as secondary, as far as focused. My focus in the interview process was Instructional Leadership and individuals who demonstrated the ability to mobilize staff and have an eye for good teaching and learning and to develop our principals in this area. This is where we need work in and to also create a better continuity from high school, middle school and elementary. I felt through the interview process based on their experience, these four individuals demonstrated the skills set and experience to be able to tighten the feeder pattern approach while building capacity of our current principals and future principals in Instructional Leadership. That is what I focused on. Although they do not have specific elementary experience, the organization now has content area experts in reading, math and science by elementary, middle and high school level so that when we're talking about support for schools, that support from a content perspective comes from the academic experts not from Region Chiefs. I think we have to go beyond thinking a former principal is the right individual to build the capacity of a principal. It really should be content area specialists that really know reading, math or science and can work with that principal at an elementary, middle or high school to hone the academic expertise and knowledge in going into a classroom. So, our new Executive Directors and Directors for reading, math and science will do that specifically with principals - meetings and walk through. Region Chiefs will focus on community issues that occur that bubble up to the school level or district but also focus on Instructional Leadership broadly and helping principals work through the evaluation system and not necessarily on being an elementary, middle or high school principal. There are certainly issues that are very specific to elementary, middle and high school regarding leadership, but the focus moving forward is what is good teaching and learning? What good teaching and learning is at an elementary school, yes, is somewhat different than middle and high school, but bottom line, good teaching and learning is

"Are you teaching to the standards? One you teach, are you reteaching issues based on data showing deficiencies in small groups or all groups? And, are you engaging students at a high level regarding higher level questions and applications?" I have not met, yet, an instructional leader that cannot transcend elementary, middle and high school if they know what good teaching and learning looks like. I do believe our four Region Chiefs understand what good teaching and learning looks like and can build the capacity of our principals regardless of grade span."

Dr. Hall said, "We also have to be very mindful to our principals and schools staff - that's where the rubber hits the road because they are the ones in direct contact with our students and moving student achievement and the staff outside of that are designed to give them the support so they can be successful with our students. That is why we're here for our children. So, we want to make sure that we strengthen a culture where everybody else knows that they are there to support what happens in schools so that schools can be successful. Thank you."

[21. REAPPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL](#)

Attachment: [HRS Reappointment Teachers 2013-2014 06-10-13.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[22. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - CHRISTOPHER NIXON](#)

[23. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - MARK CRUICKSHANK](#)

~~24. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - ROBERT IVY - WITHDRAWN~~

~~25. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - JACQUELYN JOHNSON - WITHDRAWN~~

[26. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - RICHARD PALMER](#)

[27. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - AYESHIA SEBASTIAN](#)

~~28. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - KEDRA STANLEY - WITHDRAWN~~

[29. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - LATANYA BALDWIN](#)

[30. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - SHARON JONES](#)

~~31. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - PETER KEEVES - WITHDRAWN~~

[32. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - NEKEYMA MARTIN](#)

[33. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - TERRIC MCBRIDE](#)

[34. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - MARY SELLERS](#)

[35. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - DAVID SWANSON](#)

[36. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND DEMOTION - DAVID COOK](#)

~~[37. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - CATHERINE WILKES - WITHDRAWN](#)~~

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[38. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [March 2013 Monthly Financial Statement Narrative.pdf](#)

Attachment: [March 2013 Cash and Invest Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [March 2013 Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)

[39. RESOLUTION TO READOPT 2012-2013 BUDGET](#)

Attachment: [Certification to readopt the 1213 budget.pdf](#)

[40. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS April 30, 2013](#)

Attachment: [Budget Resolutions June 2013.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Couch asked the Superintendent or Ms. Edwards, Chief Financial Officer, to explain the Budget Resolution item that shows a \$564,289.64 decrease and a \$1,171,719 increase. I think it says Value Adjustment Board in our document on page 192 of the Budget Resolution. There's also a \$607,429 decrease on the same page and it appears for the same thing. This seems unusual and I don't think we see this regularly, so I'd like an explanation of what it is.

Dr. Vitti, on page 192, correct? Ms. Edwards?

Ms. Edwards said I think we'd have to go back and make sure that we can give you an exact definition of that for the Value Adjustment Board.

Dr. Vitti said he'd rather put it in writing and explain than rather guess as far as the decrease. I'll get that to you and the Board by tomorrow.

Ms. Couch said he seems unusually high and I don't think we've seen it like this, before. In the document on page 153 of the agenda, for the public's information, it talks about the fund balance for General Fund as of March 31, 2013, \$207,210,333 and then it talks about the decrease in fund balance was planned for an anticipation of the spend-down of ARRA funding. Can you explain why our district did that? What was the reasoning behind preparing for the spend-down in ARRA funding?

Dr. Vitti said the ARRA funding and the strategy linked to the ARRA funding obviously was a part of the former administration's strategy, so before I can speak exactly to it, I'd like to research it with the budget staff, put it in writing and then give it to you.

Ms. Couch asked what is happening with the ARRA funding? Where are we in that?

Dr. Vitti said it's gone so because of that, I don't know what the strategy of the former administration was regarding ARRA funding so I'll have to look at what was the long term approach with how they used ARRA funding and anticipated the cliff at the end of funding. So, we're at that cliff but I don't know...

Ms. Couch said for a further question would be, since we reached that, we planned, but I think some of that funding was spent towards recurring costs. So, what are we doing for future...to fund that?

Dr. Vitti said with the 2013-2014 budget, the conversation of ARRA funding has not come up because we're already dealing with the reality of not having ARRA funding in 2012-2013. I couldn't tell you exactly how the district spent ARRA funding. I do know that every district throughout the state used it for anything from reading coaches to math coaches, different initiatives but I certainly could research it and see what the long term strategy was.

Ms. Couch said it appears that we put money aside in the fund balance to prepare for that cliff. That money was spent on a recurring cost. Now that the cliff is here, the recurring cost still exist and we will have to continue to spend-down.

Dr. Vitti said as part of the analysis of 2013-2014, with all the different conversations we've had at our budget workshops and the preparation that went into that, the issue of ARRA funding has never come up. My sense is that we're somewhat removed from it that it hasn't been a necessary reality with more of a reality going into the 2012-2013 budget. Let me dive into that and I will put it in writing to you.

[41. INTERNAL ACCOUNTS FUNDS- SCHOOL AUDITS](#)

Attachment: [Internal Accounts Funds - School Audits 2013.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

[42. PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - Renewals 6-2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - New 6-2013.pdf](#)

[43. SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATE OF FINAL INSPECTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS OVER \\$1,000,000: RENOVATE DCPS POLICE STATION AT TERRY PARKER ANNEX NO. 136-2/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91520](#)

[44. DISTRICTWIDE HEATING UPGRADES AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS NOS: 30, 84, 205, 208, 210, 222/OFDC-ITB-005-13/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83770: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

[45. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS, FINAL INSPECTIONS AND ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNTS ON MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \\$1,000,000](#)

Attachment: [June 4 2013 Agenda Item CSC-CFI-Cont Sav on on Proj Chart for May 2013.pdf](#)

[47. DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS GROUP 3 PHASE 2-2/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83750](#)

[46. FACILITIES SERVICES CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER REPORT OF CHANGE ORDERS THAT ARE LESS THAN 3% OF THE PROJECT COST OR \\$50,000, WHICHEVER IS MORE](#)

Attachment: [June 4 2013 Agenda Change Order Report Chart for May 2013.pdf](#)

[48. FIRE ALARM AND SECURITY SYSTEMS UPGRADES AT HIGHLANDS MIDDLE SCHOOL NO. 244/DCSB PROJECT NOS. M-83970 AND M-83980/OFDC-ITB-012-13: CONSTRUCTION AWARD](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

[52. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT](#)

Attachment: [07June2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Retirement Order Highlight outline June 2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [05June2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Copy of ROSUMJUNFY13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Copy of JUNE RETIREMENT.pdf](#)

Attachment: [04June2013.pdf](#)

General

[53. APPROVAL OF STUDENT HOURS FOR 2013-2014](#)

Discussion

Academic Services

[3. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2013-2014 STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Modifications to the 2013-2014 Student Progression Plan

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Motions:

1. Conduct a public hearing on the revisions to the 2013-2014 Student Progression Plan.
2. Following the Public Hearing, approve the modifications to the 2013-2014 Student Progression Plan. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Ashley Juarez

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

[4. PARTNERSHIP TO EXPAND OPTIONS FOR OVER-AGE SECONDARY STUDENTS](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice Chair
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member

Board Member Cheryl Grymes disclosed the following:

"I asked that this item be placed on the discussion list so that I could disclose that this matter would inure to the special gain or loss of my relative (who is employed by Communities in Schools, which is a nonprofit organization).

I declare this voting conflict during the discussion of this agenda item, I abstained from the vote for this matter, and I have completed this form for the June 20, 2013 minutes."

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve an agreement with Communities in Schools and the Bridge of Northeast Florida to expand the current programs for over-age secondary students at district school sites at a cost not to exceed \$925,315. - PASS
2. That the Duval County School Board Authorize the Board Chairman and the Superintendent to execute the agreement upon approval as to form and approve any amendments required to fully implement this agreement.

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Jason Fischer

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Abstain
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Ave

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board waive Board Policy and continue the Board Meeting past the 11:00 p.m. stop time. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

[5. CONTINUATION OF THE INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT WITH DUVAL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT](#)

Attachment: [Health Department Agreement 1314.pdf](#)

Minutes: *No speakers*

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the continuation of an interagency agreement with the Duval County Health Department for the provision of comprehensive school health services, at a cost not to exceed \$257,528.
2. That the Duval County School Board authorize the Board Chairman and the Superintendent to execute the agreement upon approval as to form and approve any amendments required to fully implement this agreement. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Ashley Juarez

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

[6. CONTINUATION OF INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS WITH AMI KIDS AND PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS](#)

Attachment: [AMI Kids 2013-2014v3.pdf](#)

Attachment: [PACE Signed Contract 2013-2014.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Ashley Juarez disclosed the following:

"I asked that this item be placed on the discussion list so that I could disclose that this matter would inure to the special private gain or loss of my family's nonprofit foundation of which I am a trustee (which is a 501(c)3 organization), which provides funding to the Pace Center for Girls.

I made this declaration during the discussion of this agenda item, I abstained from the vote for this matter, and I have completed this form for the June 10, 2013 minutes.

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the continuation of interagency agreements with AMI Kids, Inc. and Pace Center for Girls.
2. That the Duval County School Board authorize the Board Chairman and Superintendent to execute the agreements contingent upon approval as to form and approve any - PASS

amendments required to fully implement this agreement.

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Abstain

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

[12. FULL DAY EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM FEE](#)

Minutes: Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice Chair

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a full day Early Childhood program parent fee to be paid in the amount of \$350 per month at Non-Title I schools. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Nay

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:	
I move to amend this item to require the Superintendent to bring back this agenda item next year for the Board's approval of the fee to be charged for 2014-2015, pursuant to Board Policy 4.18.	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: Jason Fischer	
Second: Rebecca Couch	
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - Transportation

[49. FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION OF BOARD POLICY CHAPTER 5 - STUDENTS, SECTION 5.46 - MAGNET SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS](#)

Attachment: [MAGNET SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS 5 46 - Revised 5-8-13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Revision of Board Policy Chapter 5 - Students, Section 5.46 - Magnet Schools and Programs

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public

hearing.

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice Chair

Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief of Operations

Mr. Paul Soares, Chief Officer, Operations Support

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing to revise Board Policy Chapter 5 - Students, Section 5.46 - Magnet Schools and Programs.

That the Duval County School Board approve the following proposed change:

5.46 - Magnet Schools and Programs

XIII. Transportation

- PASS

The School Board may provide transportation for all students who are enrolled in magnet schools and programs who reside more than one and a half (1 1/2) ~~2~~ miles from their assigned school and are within the designated transportation zone. Magnet transportation will comply with magnet Routes as defined in School Board Policy 8.32

Vote Results

Motion: Jason Fischer

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright

- Aye

[50. FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION OF BOARD POLICY CHAPTER 8 - AUXILIARY SERVICES, SECTION 8.30 - STUDENT TRANSPORTATION](#)

Attachment: [STUDENT TRANSPORTATION 8 30 - Revised 5-8-13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Revision of Board Policy Chapter 8 - Auxiliary Services, Section 8:30 - Student Transportation

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing to revise Board Policy Chapter 8 - Auxiliary Services, Section 8.30 - Student Transportation.

That the Duval County School Board approve the following proposed change:

8.30 - Student Transportation

V. Any student who resides more than ~~one and a half (1 1/2)~~ 2 miles from his/her assigned school is eligible to ride the school bus to and from that school. One ~~(1) and a half (1 1/2)~~ 1 miles shall be considered a reasonable walking distance to a bus stop for students who are eligible to ride a school bus. Such distance shall be measured by the most direct route from the closest pedestrian entry point of the property where the student resides (where private property meets the public right-of-way) to the closest pedestrian entry point of the assigned school building or to the assigned bus stop. The District shall determine the

- PASS

shortest pedestrian route whether or not it is accessible to motor vehicle traffic. If the closest bus stop is a school less than ~~one and a half (1 1/2) two (2)~~ miles from the student residence the ~~one (1) and a half (1 1/2)~~ mile rule to a bus stop will not apply. Students who are assigned to a magnet school and/or programs through the Magnet/School Choice office may be eligible for transportation under this section, ~~but the District is not required to provide transportation and likely to be unable to fund such transportation.~~ The District may also determine that students of other programs, such as Alternative Schools, are eligible for transportation but to which the aforementioned rules for ~~one (1) 1/2~~ mile to a bus stop or ~~one and a half (1 1/2) 2~~ miles to a school do not apply. Under the following conditions, students who reside within ~~one and a half (1 1/2) two (2)~~ miles of the designated school may be eligible to ride the school bus.

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Ashley Juarez

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

[51. FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION OF BOARD POLICY CHAPTER 8 - AUXILIARY SERVICES, SECTION 8.32 - BUS ROUTES](#)

Attachment: [BUS ROUTES 8 32 - Revised 5-8-13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Revision of Board Policy Chapter 8 - Auxiliary Services, Section 8.32 - Bus Routes

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing to revise Board policy Chapter 8 - Auxiliary Services, Section 8.32 - Bus Routes.

That the Duval County School Board approve the following proposed change:

8.32 Bus Routes

IV. Spur Routes - A spur or loop route shall be made to serve students whose residences are more than one ~~(1) and a half (1-1/2)~~ miles from the main trunk route provided that:

A. The distance from the student's home to the nearest point on the main trunk route of the bus serving the school that he/she is required or expected to attend is more than one ~~(1) and a half (1-1/2)~~ miles as measured by the nearest accessible route.

- PASS

D. A spur route or loop route for the convenience of students living in an isolated area shall be extended only to a point within one ~~(1) and a half (1-1/2)~~ miles of the students's home and not necessarily to the place of his/her residence if an adequate turning area for the bus is not available nearer to the home of the student who is farthest from the main trunk bus route.

V. Magnet Routes - Transportation

may be provided to students who are enrolled in magnet schools and programs who reside more than one and a half (1 1/2) ~~two (2)~~ miles from their assigned school and are within the designated transportation zone according to School Board Policy 5.46. Stops may be established primarily at or near Duval County public schools. The distance to a bus stop for magnet students may exceed one (1) and a half (1-1/2) miles.

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel:

June 12-14, 2013 - FSBA/FADSS Spring Conference - Tampa - Fischer

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board Members Travel:

- June 12-14, 2013 - FSBA/FADSS - PASS

Spring Conference - Tampa, FL -
Fischer

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Jason Fischer

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Superintendent's Travel

[SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel:

May 31, 2013 - Florida Charter School Summit - Orlando, FL

June 13-14, 2013 - FSBA/FADSS Annual Spring Conference - Tampa, FL

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board
approve the following travel for the
Superintendent:

- May 31, 2013 - Florida Charter School Summit - Orlando, FL - PASS
- June 13-14, 2013 - FSBA/FADSS Annual Spring Conference - Tampa, FL

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Jason Fischer

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Grymes wanted to congratulate all of the students who graduated. I'd like to acknowledge the high school principals as it's a lot of work to get all of the logistics in order for a grand graduation. Graduations are the highlight of a Board member's year handing out diplomas to the students.

I want to thank JPEF and our other partners who attended the P.E.P. Rally. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and had great fun!

Mr. Fischer said I had an opportunity to attend many graduations but not as many as the Superintendent; I did my best to make as many as possible and what an amazing experience it was.

Thank you to JPEF for partnering and putting on the P.E.P. Rally. A special thanks to our Superintendent who got into the dunk tank. I was able to dunk you on the first pitch .

Thank you to my dance partner, Cheryl, for the flash mob that we joined in...it was a blast and, hopefully, there is no video of that; although there is a U-Tube of me dunking you.

Someone mentioned about charter schools taking from what we're doing. Charter

schools by Florida statute are public schools. It's not a feeling but statute and some of these schools do great things for our kids. I went to Hyde Grove Elementary and just as a way of comparison, 3rd grade reading scores for Hyde Grove were 38% and if you look at Tiger Academy which is a great charter school, 82% for 3rd grade reading. 5th grade reading, if you look at KIPP and they are at th 48%; Hyde Grove is lower. Some of the charter schools do a great job and contribute positively to our kids education and it's important to highlight.

Dr. Connie Hall said congratulations, once again, to all of our graduates. Also, a job well done to our staff as we've completed another school year, almost, as I think teachers have one more day. As we work hard during the summer preparing for the new school year, I wish our staff a very safe and productive summer, as well.

I'd like to commend the community stakeholders that sponsored the "Save Our Sons" event. I understand that there was great participation and those are the kinds of things that we want to see happening in our communities, as well.

I certainly was impressed with the "I'm A Star" students who spoke to us, tonight, and look forward to participating in their telethon. I don't play basketball, never did and don't want to, but we'll be there to support them in their effort as they work for homeless children in Duval County Public Schools.

Ms. Couch said congratulations to Frank H. Peterson as they had two Career Academies that became national models which is outstanding. That was the Communications Academy and Automotive Academy. Also, at Lee High School, their Engineering Academy was recertified as a national model which is very impressive. I don't think people realize we have so many national models in our district and it's important for us to highlight them. I want to say "thank you" to the principal at Frank H. Peterson Academy, Cathy Barnes, and the principal/former principal Vicki Schultz at Lee High School and Denise Hall who helped with the process. Being a former Career and Technical Education teacher, it is very time consuming ensure that you have all of the standards met and paperwork collected. It's an outstanding feat to become a national model. I want to say "thank you" to the Career Academy teachers who teach in those academies. It's through their hard work that this took place. Also, to the district staff, a special "thank you" to Chris Force who over the years has led that drive to actually reach the Strategic Plan goal that we've used over the years past and that is to reach a number of national model career academies. We haven't reached where we want to be but to get three in one year is pretty significant.

I want to say "thank you" to JPEF and the other partners that partnered for the P.E.P. Rally. It was an amazing event and it's just really exciting to see so much support for public education at this time.

I'd like to reiterate what Dr. Hall and that is about the students who spoke tonight from the "I'm A Star" foundation. It was impressive to see them come up and they did a phenomenal job. And, "thank you" to Betty Burney for all she does for these students. I highly encourage you to attend one of their events and see the great work they are doing.

Ms. Wright said congratulations to all of the graduates and wish that their future

endeavors are prosperous, happy and productive.

I want to thank JPEF and all of the the partners for the P.E.P. Rally and I want to give a special thanks to all of the students who came and received their reading novels that day. It was a special treat for them and it, also, gave them an opportunity to share in the process.

As we close one school year and begin a new year, I want to say to the district staff, we're looking forward to alot of great things to continue with the four new Chiefs and all staff that are in their various new roles - we wish you all well and encourage and support you.

"Save Our Sons" was an excellent event at Ribault High School and they're looking for bigger and better next year.

The "I'm A Star" students showed that they are stars and I recognized some of the students as being students in Betty Burney's daycare years ago, along with my niece, at that time.

I'd like to wish as we begin summer school that our students have a great time, not just learning, but in sharing in enrichment activities during the process.

I'd like to say to Dr. Arvin Johnson, teachers, staff, parents and community at Northwestern Middle School that we are so very proud of the academic success that they have achieved on the FCAT and the hopes of being removed off the Intervene status. I'd like to say that community schools are so, so, so very important and every community deserves a great community school.

When we're discussing different agenda a items, colleagues and Dr. Vitti, that when we are facing an item like the overage, that we take the time and thoroughly workshop it in the future before we vote and not after the vote, because then hat provides clarity along the way and we prioritize what needs to be workshopped before a vote and not afterwards that helps us all to be, not necessarily on the same page, but at least coming in with the same level of understanding and not relying on emails and individual conversations. It's important that we really begin to prioritize what we workshop prior to votes. Thank you.

Ms. Juarez thanked Walter Williams at Wolfson High School who had me come in and teach Junior Achievement to his students. I really should thank the students who were very engaged and had great questions. I really enjoyed that experience at Wolfson.

I also wanted to thank all of the area PTAs. Gretchen Lynch hung in for almost all of the meeting and then they had their year-end luncheon and it was, as many PTA events, really encouraging and invigorating to see all of the parents, PTA and PTSA members to support what is happening in our schools. I really appreciate them and their engagement and involvement.

The Board was able to have a Joint Board Meeting with the JPEF Board at Sandalwood High School and see alot of the really incredible things that are ongoing in ROTC, AVID and Culinary Program where two students are in Washington, as we meet, at a national

competition for "Cooking Up Change" as well as having an Early College program that had 30 seniors graduate with their AA college degree this year. That is really commendable that those students are leaving high school with an AA (two years) degree knowing that they can and will be successful in whatever post-secondary pursuits may be.

Congratulations to all of the graduates. It was an exciting time to be a part of the graduation ceremonies to see all of the hard work, the determination, the enthusiasm of the parents and caregivers who were there to support their students as well as seeing students support each other. For those students who spoke to see the real interest and support from their own classmates was a truly great experience.

As a Take Stock in Children leadership council member, it was wonderful seeing so many students walking across the stage with their medals knowing they will be going on to post-secondary with college scholarships. Certainly, we have many wonderful community partners but Take Stock in Children does a great service to our students with the mentoring services as well as those college scholarships.

I'd like to say to all of our students, parents and teachers to really enjoy their time over the summer. Take advantage of the summer learning opportunities whether they be through the district's summer school, community partners or getting out and doing something engaging and educational in the community. My husband and I were able to go to Anastasia Park and read some of the historic markers and engage in the environment over the weekend. To parents and caregivers, get your kids out and do some of those things. It's much less than the cost of a movie. Enjoy your summer and we'll be hard at work as a Board and look forward to seeing our students back in the fall.

Mr. Lee said "thank you" to all partners who assisted and collaborated with us on the P.E.P. Rally. I thoroughly enjoyed it and there were just tons of kids out there.

Congratulations to all of the graduates. I was able to attend quite a few of the graduations along with congratulations to the 5th and 8th graders. They were extremely well attended.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman